

MUSTANG DAILY

1916

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

2007

Today's weather



Sunny

Low 40° High 64°

'Vagina Monologues'
bring new meaning to
the traditional V-Day

IN SPOTLIGHT, 9

Poly goes for
seventh win in last
nine games tonight
against UCSB

IN SPORTS, 16



Volume LXX, Number 87

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

www.mustangdaily.net

Grad student works to transform Internet

Cassie Gaeto

MUSTANG DAILY

Members of the Olympus company headquarters in Tokyo were on campus Tuesday through today to review the work of a graduate student whose research may have large implications in the field of telecommunications.

Biomedical and materials engineering student Brent Huigens is head of an Olympus-founded research and development team working on media that will transform the Internet from an electronic base to an all optical network through micro-electric-mechanical-systems (MEMS).

Although Olympus is most well-known for its dominance in the camera industry, the company actually makes a large amount of its profits in the biomedical arena.

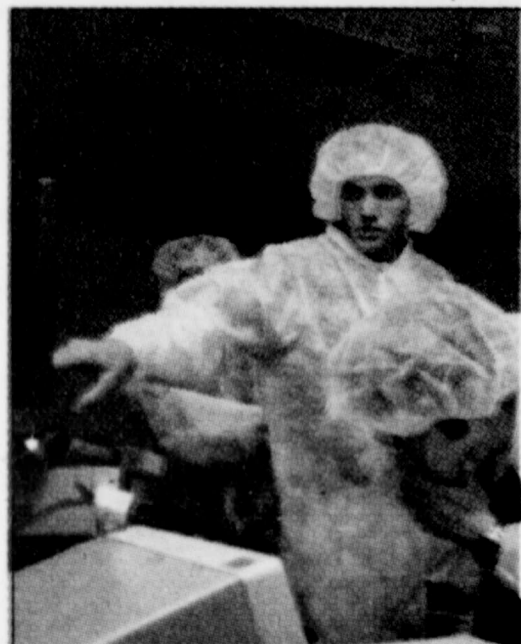
The micro mirrors Huigens and his team are working with can detect and route wavelengths of light, similar to regular household Internet routers; however, without electricity, the information has the potential to move at the speed of light.

Specifically, Huigens was responsible for building a test stand in which they could test the MEMS technology's capabilities. He and his team successfully built phase one of their project and were just asked to build another to be completed by the end of February.

"The corporate members are coming out to see us because we here at Cal Poly have surpassed the quality of research that this company is able to have done at Olympus Microsystems (a small startup company of Olympus Corporate)," Huigens said.

Huigens began his relationship with the company during an internship last summer at Olympus Microsystems in Atlanta. At the end of the summer, Huigens was interested in continuing his work with the company and proposed the idea of a long-term partnership; Olympus accepted, making Huigens head of a four-person research and development team.

see Olympus, page 2



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Graduate student Steven Meredith discusses the team's research with Koichiro Watanabe (right).



GRAIG MANTLE MUSTANG DAILY

Lindsay Lohan and film crews have been in town since Sunday shooting scenes at San Luis Obispo High School on Monday (bottom left) and downtown on Tuesday (bottom right) for the movie "I Know Who Killed Me."

Lohan movie films in SLO

Jackie Pugh

MUSTANG DAILY

The filming of Lindsay Lohan's new movie "I Know Who Killed Me," directed by Chris Sivertson, took place downtown yesterday and included numerous Cal Poly students as extras.

The psychological thriller has scenes at San Luis Obispo High School, City Hall and downtown on Higuera Street between Chorro and Broad streets.

Lohan plays Aubrey Fleming, a young woman who returns home after being abducted and tortured by a serial killer, according to imdb.com. Questions arise when Fleming claims she is someone else and seems to have dual personalities.

Many Cal Poly students played the part by being cast-

ed of extras, including football players, cheerleaders, the marching band, students and pedestrians.

"I found out about it from a friend who read about it in the newspaper," said animal science senior Melanie Atkinson.

For auditions, Atkinson, like many other students from Cal Poly, had to wait in line and hold a number while having a photo taken. All who were accepted received a call-back.

Atkinson played a student at the San Luis Obispo High School set where she had to wear red and blue, the colors of the junior college in the movie.

"There were a couple thousand people there," said psychology junior Milissa Anderson, who was an extra in the downtown scene as a pedestrian.

see Filming, page 3



MUSTANG DAILY PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Students celebrated Same Sex Handholding Day on Tuesday with a march from Dexter Lawn to the UU Plaza, followed by a discussion.

Students hold hands for rights

Hayley Bramble

MUSTANG DAILY

The Pride Alliance and the LGBT Center celebrated Same Sex Handholding Day Tuesday with the sixth annual March for Equality to the University Union and a Soup and Substance discussion in Chumash Auditorium.

About 70 students gathered on Dexter Lawn at 11 a.m. and marched in a line down Via Carta Road, up Perimeter Road, through The Avenue and up to the UU. Each

marcher held hands with someone of the same sex.

Angela Kramer, student coordinator of the Pride Alliance, marched alongside the crowd with a megaphone and led the chant of "What do we want?" "Equality!" "When do we want it?" "Now!" One student gave Kramer a high five as she passed the group on Via Carta Road.

Marchers carried signs that read "Marriage is not a special right. It's a human right," and "Diversity is our strength."

When the march ended at the UU, the club took Polaroid pictures of each of the marching pairs and then sat as a group to listen to Kramer speak.

"We are still fighting an uphill battle for equality," she said. "I encourage each and every one of you to erase apathy from you dictionaries and to fight for what you believe in."

The crowd cheered with approval. Liberal studies freshman Katja

see March, page 3

Copeland Sports files liquidation plan with court

WASHINGTON — Retailer Copeland Sports Inc. has filed a Chapter 11 liquidation plan that will leave equity holders out in the cold and serve unsecured creditors next to nothing.

Unsecured creditors, the company said in filing its plan Monday, will recover an estimated 0.2 percent to 1.9 percent on their claims. If additional cash surfaces after the liquidation of remaining assets, it will be turned over to the unsecured creditors. Holders of Copeland's subordinated notes, owed about \$13.8 million, will recover only 21 percent.

The San Luis Obispo, Calif.-based company said it has already repaid its lenders using proceeds from the sale of most of its assets.

Copeland, one of the biggest retailers of sporting goods on the West Coast, filed a disclosure statement describing its liquidation plan to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Wilmington, Del.

Most of Copeland's retail-store assets were bought by privately held Sports Authority Inc. on Nov. 1, and are intended to be reopened in the spring under its name. Hilco Real Estate LLC is expected to acquire the leases on the remaining stores.

The sale to Sports Authority gave Copeland the \$21.7 million in cash to satisfy creditors. Unsecured debt was valued as high as \$30 million, with secured debt at \$11.4 million.

Copeland ran into trouble in December 2002 when it entered into a \$35 million credit facility with the hope of expanding. Sales eventually flattened, and the company defaulted. It filed for Chapter 11 last August.

— The Associated Press

Olympus

continued from page 1

This week's meetings will act as a checkup and focus on modeling the Olympus product and characterizing the test stand. The micro mirrors for the test stands come from Japan and the corporate members are interested in what the mirrors are capable of doing and what their implications are for the future of technology.

"The most exciting aspect of all of this is that it is a student-run partnership. It provides students the experience of real-world business transactions; I am no one special, I was just given a great opportunity," Huigens said.

Huigens and his crew of other students working on their master's degrees use the Brown Engineering building as their research facility. The recent addition to campus contains a clean room that provides the necessary environment to build the test stands.

In the clean room there are only 1,000 particles in the air per square foot, compared to 500,000 particles in a normal air space. The clean room is important because any microscopic particle that appears on the micro mirrors would be big enough to hinder its ability to process information. Members of the research team must wear protective gear in the room at all times while working on their projects.



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY

Hiroshi Miyajima (above) is visiting from Japan to review the work done by a team of graduate students.

jects.

"What a great opportunity for our students to get firsthand experience with the challenges of working with an international organization and engineers from around the world. This partnership could grow into opportunities for Cal Poly students to participate in a summer internship in Tokyo and potential employment with Olympus Microsystems Inc. here in the U.S.," said materials engineering professor and

adviser Richard Savage.

Optical telecommunication networking is no longer something of the future, and MEMS will change the speed of the Internet and therefore transform its capabilities, Huigens said.

"Long downloads like books and movies will be limited only to the speed of your processor; this type of technology is used now but we haven't seen anywhere near the extent of what it could be," Huigens said.

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Fairways
AT DAIRY CREEK

The View
at Morro Bay

Filming

continued from page 1

As part of her role, Anderson had to bring her car and park it on Higuera. Cameo Casting, the company that chose the extras, gave her a ticket in order to make it past the tight security measures.

Anderson and Atkinson are paid extras and will receive \$60 for eight hours, roughly, minimum wage. For Anderson, figuring out when she was actually needed and for how long was a struggle.

"They tell you to call a number and it's an answering machine," Anderson said. "It told me to call back after 1 p.m., and then after 6 p.m., and then after midnight, and again this morning at 8."

While the sidewalks were open to the public, Higuera Street was blocked off from Chorro to Broad streets. Heavy traffic filled the surrounding area and multiple police officers were on patrol.

With all the "hustle and bustle" that this Lohan movie is bringing to the quiet town of San Luis Obispo, many are probably wondering why the town was chosen.

Dave Kastner, film and technology man-

ager for the San Luis Obispo County Film Commission mentioned that San Luis Obispo has actually had quite a few appearances in popular, well-known movies, as well as a variety of commercials.

"They sent a location scout up to this area," Kastner said in reference to the Lohan movie. "One of the members had a connection and thought that they might find what they were looking for."

It seems that San Luis Obispo's small-town atmosphere must be a popular theme for the average psychological thriller flick.

"About seven years ago 'Murder by Numbers' had major scene shot here and in the downtown area, as well as 'Arachnophobia' that was shot here and in Cambria," Kastner said.

After "Sideways" landed the Central Coast town on the map, future plans for the area could include an independent movie filming in Morro Bay.

For more information, check out the San Luis Obispo County Film Commission's Web site at www.sanluisobispo.com. Also, be on the lookout for Lohan's thriller "I Know Who Killed Me," due to release sometime in 2008.

March

continued from page 1

Davis and architectural engineering freshman Jen Ton both members of the Pride Alliance, participated in the march for the first time. As they walked through The Avenue, Davis said they received a generally positive reaction; she saw smiles and some people clapped in support of the group.

"People were really surprised," said Amy Narevsky, a liberal studies sophomore and a student coordinator for the Pride Alliance. Narevsky said she thought during the march they had caught people off guard, as she had seen a few looks of confusion.

"But I think that's an essential part of the march," she said, noting that a lot of people on campus don't know about the Pride Alliance.

"It's a weird thing for people to have to protest for equal rights," said mechanical engineering senior Drew Atkinson, who was sitting in the UU when the march concluded. "It's not something you should have to fight for."

The march was followed by Soup and Substance, a luncheon and discussion of the controversy over equal rights for gays. Two Cal Poly staff members spoke about their experiences of being out and how they had been warmly accepted in the Cal Poly community.

"That's the focus of this year: making people feel comfortable being out," said Kramer. She said she hoped with faculty and staff being out, it will make students more comfortable being out.

"I wish it wasn't as scary for people to be out," said Kyle Stevens, a city and regional planning sophomore and a member of the Pride Alliance. Stevens participated in the march Tuesday for the second year and

attended the Soup and Substance talk. A Palm Springs native, he expressed his frustration for the small LGBT community in San Luis Obispo having no outlet. He said there used to be specific nights for gays at Tortilla Flats and The Grad, but those no longer exist.

Missi Bullock and Marilyn Allison, who spoke at the luncheon, are both Cal Poly graduates and current staff members. The two have been together for 11 years and have a 2-year-old daughter, Landen. Bullock is the head teacher at the ASI children's center and Allison works for Housing and Residential Life.

"It was never a question to me of 'Will I be out?'" Bullock said.

Bullock and Allison spoke of how the laws are slowly changing to accommodate same-sex couples. The two have been officially registered as domestic partners for more than six years, which gives them certain rights, like filing jointly for taxes, but still does not give them other rights that are afforded to married couples by the state.

However, the couple said they "have felt nothing but love, support and acceptance" from the Cal Poly community.

"ASI treated it as a non-issue," Allison said.

Erin Echols, the new coordinator for the Pride Alliance and the LBGT Center, was pleased with the event.

"We haven't seen this many people yet this year at Soup and Substance," she said. Echols started as the new coordinator for the center in September after moving to the Central Coast from New Hampshire.

Kramer concluded the discussion, thanking everyone that had come out to support the event.

"I'm glad to see that we have some visibility and support around campus," she said.

Mustang Daily



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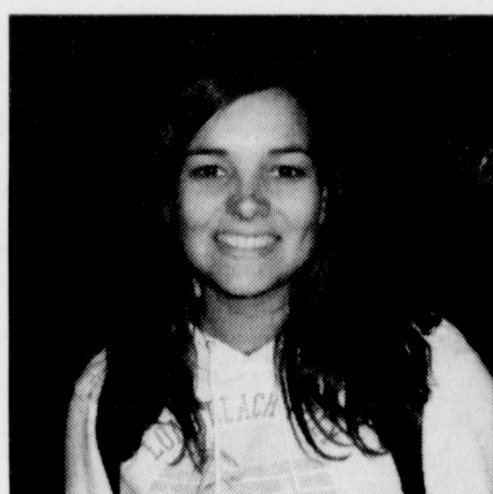
Question of the day:

Is Lindsay Lohan shooting a movie in SLO a big deal?



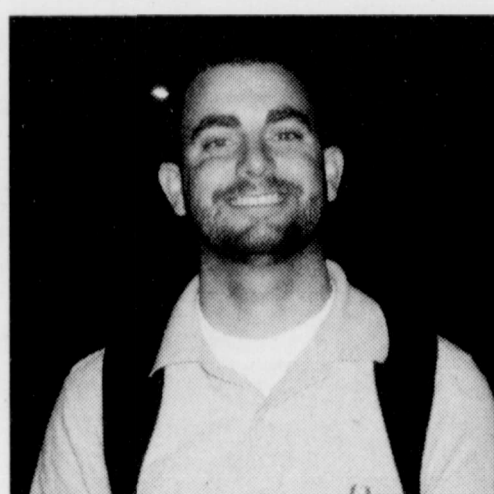
"Honestly, I don't care. She's no different than any other actress. It's cool that there's a movie being filmed here, but I don't think Lindsay Lohan has done anything stellar."

-Lowell Olcott
theatrE
junior



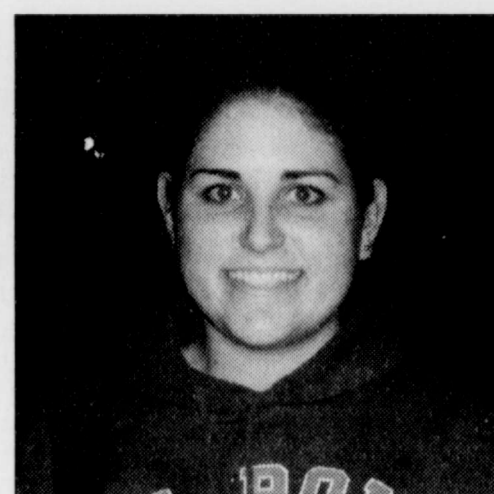
"It's stirring a lot of conversation. I think it's cool that a big movie star is here because you don't hear about those things very much in San Luis Obispo."

-Blaine Palsgrove
psychology
sophomore



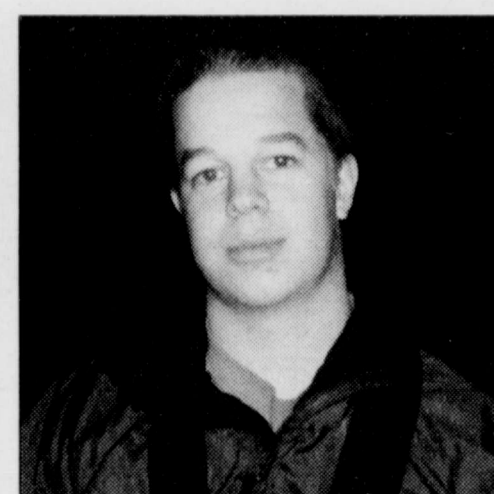
"Heck yes. She's a double entente — a singer and an actress. You do the math. It adds up to a big deal."

-Tyson Witcher
history
senior



"I'm not a huge fan, so I'm not super excited about it. But I could see how someone who was a huge fan would think it's really exciting."

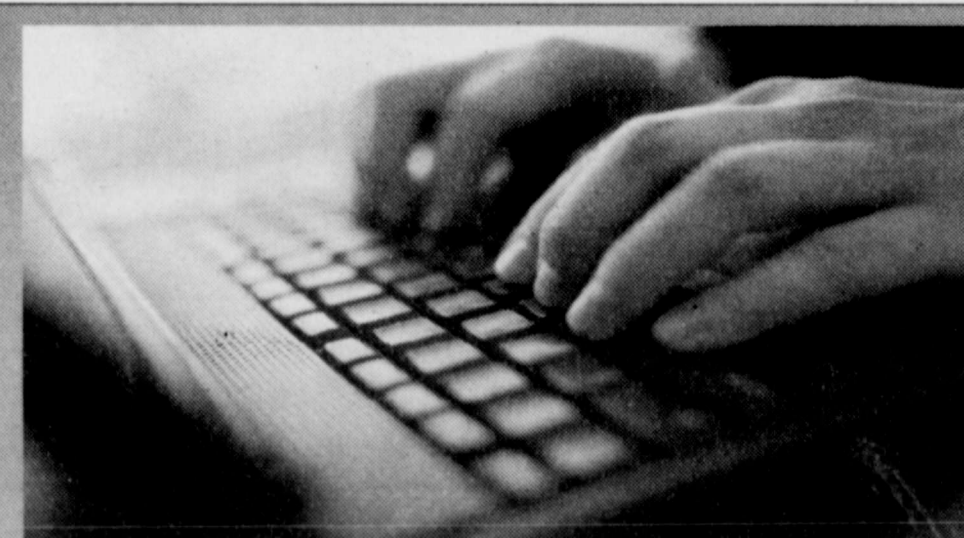
-Stacy Gulland
biochemistry
senior



"I think it's cool that people want to shoot movies here, but as far as Lindsay Lohan is concerned, I could care less."

-Ben Raymond
materials engineering
freshman

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Consumers' taste for premium chocolates makes chocolatiers boom

Lisa Leff
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERKELEY, Calif. — Americans' love of chocolate has become a dark and bittersweet affair, and it took a former vintner to make it so.

John Scharffenberger and Robert Steinberg launched the first U.S. chocolate manufacturing company in half a century, drawing heavily on Scharffenberger's refined palate and his past as a maker of sparkling wines.

Together, they set out to do for dark chocolate what fellow Californian Robert Mondavi had done for wine — demystify, democratize and domesticate it.

Call it kismet, uncanny timing or creative chemistry, but in the 11 years since co-founding Scharffen Berger Chocolate Maker they have watched the public's appetite for gourmet chocolate expand from a Valentine's Day extravagance to an everyday indulgence.

"We've gone through a food revolution in this country," said Scharffenberger. It's just like how Americans have become more sophisticated about wine, whole-bean coffee, artisan cheeses and other products that once were the luxury of certified foodies have been mainstreamed to the masses.

"The one thing that remained to be done was chocolate, and that's what we hit on," Scharffenberger said.

Like the label of a fine wine, the wrapper on a Scharffen Berger chocolate tells you exactly what's inside. It was the first U.S. chocolatier to feature the cacao count prominently on its wrappers — the higher the number, the darker and more bitter the chocolate. And the source of the beans is also noted, for those who like knowing whether their chocolate got its start in Madagascar, Ecuador, Ghana or Peru.

Scharffen Berger bars now are

see Chocolate, page 6

Police say off-duty officer prevented larger killing spree at Utah shopping mall

Paul Foy
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY — An off-duty police officer having an early Valentine's Day dinner with his wife was credited Tuesday with helping stop a rampage in a crowded shopping mall by an 18-year-old gunman who shot five people to death before he was killed by police.

A day after the shooting, investigators struggled to figure out why a trench-coated Sulejmen Talovic opened fire on shoppers with a supremely calm look on his face.

The teenager wanted "to kill a large number of people" and probably would have killed many more if not for the off-duty officer, Police Chief Chris Burbank said.

Ken Hammond, an off-duty officer from Ogden, north of Salt Lake City, jumped up from his seat at a restaurant after hearing gunfire and cornered the gunman, exchanging fire with him until other officers arrived, Burbank said.

"There is no question that his quick actions saved the lives of numerous other people," the police chief said.

Police said it was not immediately clear who fired the shot that killed Talovic.

Talovic had a backpack full of ammunition, a shotgun and a .38-caliber pistol, police said.

Investigators knew little about him, except that he lived in Salt Lake City with his mother, the police chief said. He was enrolled in numerous city schools before withdrawing in 2004, the school district said.

"I feel like I was there and did what I had to do," Hammond told reporters. After spotting the gunman, he told his pregnant wife to take cover in the restaurant and went to confront the suspect.

Talovic's aunt, Ajka Onerovic, emerged briefly from the family's house to say relatives had no idea why the young man attacked so many strangers. She said the family moved to Utah from Bosnia.

"He was a such a good boy. I don't know what happened," she told Salt Lake City television station KSL.

Talovic drove to the Trolley Square shopping center — a century-old former trolley barn with winding hallways, brick floors and wrought-iron balconies — and immediately killed two people, followed by a third victim as he came through a door, Burbank said. Five other people were then shot in a gift shop, he said.

Four people who were wounded remained hospitalized Tuesday, two in critical condition, two in serious.

One of the wounded shoppers, Shawn Munns, 34, was alone out-

side the mall after a meal with his wife and two stepchildren when Talovic blasted him with a shotgun, according to sister-in-law Jodie Sparrow.

With dozens of pellets embedded in his side, Munns staggered into a restaurant and warned diners about the gunman, Sparrow said.

Outside the mall, candles and flowers were left as memorials to the victims, who were identified as Jeffrey Walker, 52, Vanessa Quinn, 29, Kirsten Hinkley, 15, Teresa Ellis, 29, and Brad Frantz, 24.

Hammond's boss, Ogden Police Chief Jon Greiner, said the state Senate wants to honor him.

"Thank goodness he was there," said Greiner, who is also a state senator. "You don't want to ever say it's good we were there and killed somebody, but it's probably good someone was there."

Accountant Jeff Barlow was on a date at another restaurant when he looked outside and saw the gunman firing from the hip.

"I thought it was some kind of joke — some kind of movie or stunt," Barlow said. "I didn't believe it was happening. And then I saw a man go down in a courtyard. I realized this was serious. These are real bullets flying around."

His date, Stephanie Bronson, added: "Just crazy. Absolutely terrifying."

State

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Hollywood Hills mansion of Tim McGraw and Faith Hill was burglarized over the weekend, police said Tuesday.

The home was broken into between Friday and Monday when no one was home, said police Sgt. Lee Sands. Police would only say an unspecified amount of money was taken and they had no immediate suspects.

The house is not the couple's principal home, said Paul Freundlich, Hill's publicist. The singers, who live in Nashville, Tenn., were not in Los Angeles for Sunday night's Grammy Awards, he said.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Zoo paid \$4,500 to an expert in the ancient Chinese art of feng shui to ensure three endangered golden monkeys on loan from China can have a strong life force.

Consulting the feng shui expert was part of the cost for a \$7.4 million enclosure for the golden monkeys debuting at the zoo later this year. Feng shui focuses on balance in design to promote health and happiness.

Briefs

National

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson is setting up a telephone hot-line connecting him directly with the vice premier of China and naming a new deputy to oversee high level talks amid agitation in congressional quarters for a tougher line with Beijing on trade issues.

Paulson's announcements came on the same day the U.S. government reported that the United States trade deficit set a record for a fifth consecutive year and the imbalance with China soared to the highest level ever for an individual country.

Paulson said he understood there was growing pressure on the administration to do something about the U.S.-China trade relationship.

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A blast of snow, freezing rain and plunging temperatures created headaches for travelers Tuesday across the Midwest with canceled flights and cars and tractor-trailer rigs sliding off highways. A blizzard warning was in effect until midnight for counties north of Indianapolis, and a foot or more of snow was possible across Indiana's midsection and parts of Illinois.

International

TOKYO (AP) — Perky cartoon character Prince Pickles — with saucer-round eyes, big dimples and tiny, boot-clad feet — poses in front of tanks, rappels from helicopters and shakes hands with smiling Iraqis.

As Japan sheds its postwar pacifism and gears up to take a higher military profile in the world, it is enlisting cadres of cute characters to put a gentle, harmless sheen to its deployments.

"Prince Pickles is our image character because he's very endearing, which is what Japan's military stands for," said Defense Agency official Shotaro Yanagi.

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — An apparently coordinated wave of bombings largely targeting police killed six people and wounded nearly 30 others in Algeria on Tuesday, according to the official news agency, police and hospital staff.

While no one claimed responsibility for the attacks, they bore the hallmarks of the Salafist Group of Call and Combat, or GSPC, an al-Qaida-linked Islamic insurgency group. Less than a month ago, it announced it was changing its name to al-Qaida in Islamic North Africa, raising the stakes in the region's fight against terrorism.

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North Korea agrees to shut down main reactor and weapons program in exchange for aid

Audra Ang
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — North Korea agreed Tuesday to shut down its main nuclear reactor and eventually dismantle its atomic weapons program in exchange for millions of dollars in aid, just four months after the communist state shocked the world by testing a nuclear bomb.

The deal, reached after arduous talks, marks the first concrete plan for disarmament in more than three years of six-nation negotiations. The plan also could potentially herald a new era of cooperation in the region with the North's longtime foes — the United States and Japan — also agreeing to discuss normalizing relations.

"These talks represent the best opportunity to use diplomacy to address North Korea's nuclear programs," President Bush said in a statement read by his spokesman. "They reflect the common commitment of the participants to a Korean Peninsula that is free of nuclear weapons."

Making sure North Korea declares all its nuclear facilities and shuts them down is likely to prove difficult, nuclear experts have said.

In a sign of potential troubles to come, North Korea's state news agency said the country was receiving the 1 million tons in oil for a "temporary suspension" of its nuclear facilities — but failed to mention the full disarmament the agreement calls for.

It was not clear if the report represented a North Korean attempt to backtrack on the deal, or simply a statement of bluster for a deeply impoverished domestic audience that the government has sought to rally around the nuclear program.

The country has sidestepped previous agreements, allegedly running a uranium-based weapons program even as it froze a plutonium-based one — sparking the latest nuclear crisis in late 2002. There are believed to be countless mountainside tunnels in which to hide projects.

"We don't have an agreement at this point even on the existence of this program but I certainly have made very clear repeatedly that we need to ensure that we know precisely the status of that," said Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, the American envoy to the talks. "It's a very solid step forward."

Under the deal, the North would receive initial

see North Korea, page 12

Chocolate

continued from page 5

prominently displayed in the checkout lines of grocers like Trader Joe's, Andronico's and Whole Foods.

Yet venerable players like Reading, Pa.-based Godiva Chocolatier Inc., part of The Campbell Soup Co., and San Francisco's Ghirardelli Chocolate Co. jump-started the trend, said Marcia Mogelonsky, an analyst with the market research firm Mintel International. They popularized fancy chocolates with upscale, single-serving packaging, wider distribution and savvy marketing, she said.

Even The Hershey Co., the name synonymous with American chocolate, has invested heavily in premium chocolate, showing it is more than a fad, she said. Besides buying Scharffen Berger 1 1/2 years ago, the company has introduced its own line of premium chocolate bars and late last year purchased Ashland, Ore.-based Dagoba Organic Chocolate.

Between 2003 and 2005, U.S. sales of premium chocolates went from \$1.4 billion to \$1.79 billion, according to Mogelonsky. While it still represents only a fraction of the overall \$15.7 billion chocolate market, the growth rate for the good stuff has been much faster — 28 percent over the three-year period compared to annual rates of 2 to 3 percent for the industry as a whole.

"People were ready for a change," said Mogelonsky. She relates the trend to Americans' growing self-indulgence.

"I can't afford a mink and a diamond, but I can afford a piece of really good chocolate," she said.

As with wine and coffee, the origin of pre-

mium chocolate has increasingly become a selling point. And consumers have also responded to manufacturers' efforts to tout their relationships with growers in the developing countries where cacao typically comes from, she said.

The quality and quantity of cacao in a bar or bonbon is what distinguishes fine chocolate from the coating on a Snicker's, according to Scharffenberger, who personally oversees the blending of 30 varieties of beans that go into the company's products and visits the ranches in Guatemala, Madagascar and other countries where it secures supplies.

"We aren't creating flavors that are earth-shattering, just delicious," he said.

The Food and Drug Administration requires milk chocolate to contain at least 10 percent cacao, but Scharffen Berger's milk chocolate contains a whopping 41 percent. Its darkest dark chocolate, 82 percent.

Before Scharffenberger and Steinberg set up shop, California already was home to plenty of chocolate makers — both high-end and pedestrian. Besides Ghirardelli, they include Glendale-based Nestle USA, Guittard Chocolate Co. in Burlingame, Joseph Schmidt Confections, which also was bought out by Hershey's last year, and See's Candies in Carson.

The growth has been steady enough that by 2000 California had edged out Pennsylvania, home of Hershey's, to become the nation's chocolate capital. In 2004, the last year for which figures were available, California had 136 companies churning out chocolate and cocoa products compared to Pennsylvania's 122, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Besides its reputation as a food snob's paradise, there is a practical reason the San Francisco Bay area, in particular, has emerged as the heart of chocolate activity: the consistent, moist climate, according to Scharffenberger.

"It's a pain to make chocolate when it's hot," he said.

Like a winery, the company offers tours of its Berkeley factory where participants — about 40,000 of them a year — receive morsels of chocolate trivia along with free samples. On a recent morning, a tour group learned, for example, that cacao beans are technically a fruit, that dark chocolate tastes better melted on the tongue instead of chewed, and that the actual cacao content of white chocolate is zero.

Adrienne Newman, an aspiring chocolatier from Austin, Texas, was taking the tour for the third time after making chocolate "a full-time hobby." Over the holidays, she took her boyfriend to Switzerland so she could taste the local wares, and she mail orders chocolate from new companies whose products she wants to try.

For a long time, she could still enjoy a Hershey's bar, Newman said, but no more.

"I'm beyond that," she said. "After

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Harry Potter hysteria begins

Katrina Loh

INDIANA DAILY STUDENT (INDIANA U.)

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — July 21, 2007, will mark the end of an era for freshman Scott Lillard.

"I've been a 'Harry Potter' fan since seventh grade," Lillard said.

The last book in the "Harry Potter" series, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," will be released in July to the joy and sorrow of many.

Author J.K. Rowling announced the release date Feb. 1 on her Web site.

"I can hardly believe that I've finally written the ending I've been planning for so many years," Rowling said on JKR Rowling.com.

Melissa Anelli, founder of the popular "Harry Potter" fan site The Leaky Cauldron, was shocked to find out the release date.

"We actually had a few e-mails from people who work in publishing, the night before, (who) had been contacted by Scholastic about an impending big announcement," Anelli said in an e-mail interview.

The news is bittersweet for David Oldenkamp, the international studies librarian at the Herman B Wells Library.

"I am sad that this is the last book," he said, "but then again, I don't want more books just for the sake of more books."

Fans from across the nation have already created a midnight-release event on Facebook with 21,367 confirmed guests, as of press time.

Reports that the book will sell for \$65 are only referring to a deluxe edition.

Famous author brings 'War' and 'Peace' to Poly

Jackie Pugh

MUSTANG DAILY

The Cal Poly women's studies program will bring Maxine Hong Kingston, editor of "Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace," to speak in the Christopher Cohan Center, room 124 Thursday at 8 p.m.

Kingston, a retired senior lecturer for creative writing at UC Berkeley, and the publisher Koa Books, are proud to announce this compilation of narrative and creative works by veterans spanning five wars.

A standout quality of the book is Kingston's ability to convey the complexity of the immigrant experience, the Asian-American experience, and the experience of women, all as intersecting identities.

"It's an incredibly moving collection of writings by people whose worlds have come apart and they've rebuilt them," said Mary Armstrong, a professor and director of the women studies program. "It's incredibly profound."

Kingston, who is currently on a reading tour of her new book, will be joined by Cuesta College English professor Tom Patchell and veterans Elijah Imlah and Robert

Golling, who contributed to the book.

The reading will consist of an overview and description of how writing, meditation and community provide healing and conformation for veterans. Afterwards, people will read from their own pieces.

Kingston, along with Theresa Fitzgerald, a Buddhist monk, held meditation retreats for veterans, which was where she was able to collect many stories. This program has been running since the 1980s. Fitzgerald shared her thoughts on "Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace" and the impact a work like this one can have on the college population.

"As people are volunteering to go to war and finding out they are getting into much more than they bargained for," Fitzgerald said. "To know what people have been through from every angle, as widows or family members, children or spouses; from reading this book you can really learn what brings someone to go to war, what the experience in war is and what the aftermath is like."

On the meditation retreats, Kingston offered the writing portion. The two would spend the bulk

of their time during the retreats with veterans to help them put their story together.

Kingston brings in a new definition of the word veteran in that she captures the experience of combat veterans, medics and others who have served in war. She also captures the experience of gang members,

drug users, draft resisters, victims of domestic abuse and peace workers.

Kingston has received numerous awards, such as the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction for her other memoirs and fiction pieces like "The Woman Warrior" and "China Man."

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BOOK
REVIEW

By Laura Kasavan

BOOK
OF THE
WEEK:

BORN ON A BLUE DAY

When most people think about numbers, some of the following adjectives come to mind: analytical, ordered and unchanging. However, a small percentage of the population experiences numbers in a visual and emotional way described as synesthesia.

For Daniel Tammet, this rare, neu-

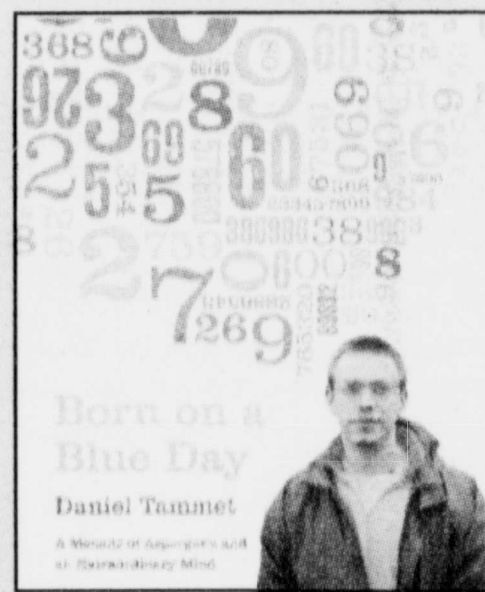
rological mixing of the senses allows him to see numbers as shapes, colors, textures and motions. In his memoir titled "Born on a Blue Day," he describes the number one as "a brilliant and bright white, like someone shining a flashlight into my eyes. Five is a clap of thunder or the sound of waves crashing against rocks. Thirty-

seven is lumpy like porridge, while 89 reminds me of falling snow."

However, Tammet's ability to learn new languages fluently in a week or memorize more than 25,000 digits of pi, come with a price. He has savant syndrome, which is defined by the Wisconsin Medical Society's Web site as "a rare, but spectacular, condition in which persons with serious mental disabilities, including autistic disorder, have some 'islands of genius,' that stand in marked, incongruous contrast to the overall handicap."

As Tammet's book describes, savant syndrome gained exposure after Dustin Hoffman's portrayal of the condition in the 1988 Oscar-winning film "Rain Man." Much like Hoffman's character, Tammet has "an almost obsessive need for order and routine" which affects every aspect of his life. For instance, he eats a precise amount of cereal every morning for breakfast, and when he enters situations that he finds unsettling, he counts in order to regain his composure and feel at ease.

Although other individuals have severe neurological disorders,



Tammet's story is unique because he leads a completely independent life. In addition, he fascinates the reader by clearly explaining the happenings inside his head.

With well-crafted ease, he begins his book by chronicling the experiences of his isolated childhood. His early years were marked by numerous behavioral problems such as screaming, crying, and head-banging; all of which are characteristics of autism. However, he quickly evolved into a reserved and aloof toddler who was absorbed in his own life.

"What must the other children have made of me? I don't know, because I have no memory of them at all," he mused on his nursery experience. "To me, they were the background to my visual and tactile experiences. I had no sense at all of play as a mutual activity."

At age 4, he experienced his first epileptic seizure and was diagnosed with temporal lobe epilepsy. Fortunately, his anti-seizure med-

ication was effective, and he has since lived a seizure-free life. Although doctors were unable to determine whether the epilepsy left a lasting effect on Tammet's brain, some researchers have suggested that his savant abilities could be explained by a left-brain injury leading to right-brain compensation.

He wrote about another aspect of his childhood – an obsession with collecting things, including chestnuts that fell from trees nearby – almost poetically. "Trees were a source of fascination for me as far back as I could remember; I loved rubbing the palms of my hands into the course, wrinkled bark and pressing the tips of my fingers along its furrows. The falling leaves formed spirals in the air, like the spirals I saw when I did division in my head."

As Tammet's life with autism continued, his obsessions varied. His interests and activities included a love of circles, puzzles and card games, and "ironing" clothes with a cool iron for hours at a time. He was highly adept at finding ways to entertain himself.

His level of resilience provided him with the necessary motivation to do "normal" activities, which may not have seemed feasible at first: live independently, fall in love, be employed in a language tutorial business, and even be interviewed by David Letterman. "Born on a Blue Day" is Daniel Tammet's remarkable story, yet it is also a source of encouragement to anyone who has persevered despite uncontrollable obstacles.



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Shakes Exclusively at Lucy's Juice

Melissa Montecucollo
CAMPUS DINING STAFF WRITER

Starting on Feb. 5, Lucy's Juice introduced two new items to their menu. Charlie's Chocolate Shake and Peanut Butter Blast made their debut appearance this quarter. Both items are more like shakes rather than the traditional Lucy's smoothie. They're designed for those who want to see more chocolate on the menu.

"It's been many years since the Lucy's recipe has changed," said Sandwich Factory and Lucy's supervisor Claudia Boller. "It's time to try something new."

The shakes are considered to be a special at Lucy's because Boller said she isn't sure if they'll be popular enough to continue.

"Lucy's and Lucy's Too are tied together, so we coordinate any changes." But the new drinks will only be available at Lucy's and not at Lucy's Too.

"I have been here since 2000 and I always wanted to have a chocolate shake," said Lucy's employee, Crystal Davis. "I'm not really into smoothies."

"People wanted it," said Boller. Lucy's received suggestions

from people that Lucy's should add something different.

Davis was extremely excited to hear about the new drinks. "It was my idea. I've wanted this for a long time. I know people like chocolate."



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Play celebrates V-Day with style

Janelle Eastridge
MUSTANG DAILY

The very word evokes a mixture of responses.

Va-gi-na / vuh-jahy-nuh/ n: The tube-shaped part of the reproductive tract in female mammals that is connected to the uterus at one end and opens to the outside of the body on the other end.

Is a vagina merely an anatomical fixture essential for childbearing or does it symbolize and embody the female gender in a deeper sense? Does it represent something that should be suppressed or something that should be celebrated?

These issues and many more will be explored this weekend in benefit performances of Eve Ensler's controversial 1996 work, "The Vagina Monologues."

Sponsored by Cal Poly's Women's Programs and Services, the empowering "series of monologues" will be playing at the Performing Arts Center Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. The price for admission is \$12 for students and \$15 for general admission. Tickets are available at the Performing Arts Center box office.

"(The Vagina Monologues) empowers women across the board, especially in regards to women's sexuality, women in other cultures and women violence," producer Natalie Smith said. "(Our hope) is that it



PATRICK TRAUTFIELD MUSTANG DAILY

Modern languages and literature senior Lindsey Goldberg and theatre sophomore Anna Szwajkowska rehearse for "The Vagina Monologues."

will be an open venue to talk about sexuality and things that are normally overlooked in society. Plus, it's entertaining."

Based on interviews with more than 200 women, Ensler wrote her play — of about 18 vignettes — to range from the serious to the comic. The 23-woman cast will present the sketches in true monologue form on subjects pertinent to women.

Comic sketches are interspersed with more solemn ones, Smith said so that "it's not like you're hit, 'wham!' with all serious ones. They're all mixed up."

The performance is one of more than 650 being staged throughout the world for V-Day, a global movement begun by Ensler. What she and literally thousands of others are hoping to do internationally on this day (or weekend) — which is dedicated to "victory, Valentine and vagina" — is raise awareness for and eventually stop violence geared towards women and young girls around the world. Peace is the goal.

According the V-Day Web site, more than \$30 million have been raised over the past eight years.

see V-Day, page 13

'Singles Awareness Day' sucks

Devan McClaine
MUSTANG DAILY

I came to a couple of harsh realizations today. First, I will be spending Valentine's Day with my mom, which was unintentional, by the way. Ladies, you know guys can't remember to shower, much less recall which day of the month Valentine's Day falls on. Second, I am in a major with a little over 200 people, and more than two thirds of them are women. One would think I would have a decent chance of finding a valentine; not so much.

Finding a valentine the past couple of years has been as elusive as Warren Baker. I wonder if the Prez has a valentine? I'll be honest I do possess a couple of characteristics that may preclude from being valentine-worthy.

I am a rabid sports fan, which runs along the lines of "stalked me in high school" and "looks like my dad" in the realm of traits women look for in a guy. So I got that going for me... I also spend an inordinate amount of time in the Mustang Daily office. I think chicks would dig the office if they could get past the general lack of sanitation, abundance of animals and Creed jokes (Scott Stapp is a god).

Another flaw that may dissuade a potential valentine is my excessive use of the word "poop" and overt discussion of scatological matter in general. I shout "SNL"/"Anchorman"/"Borat" quotes at random and in no particular context.

I am a horrible dancer; think Elaine from "Seinfeld," only more thumb and more hyphy. I look like the love child of Cary Elwes from "Princess Bride" and the oldest son from "Home Improvement."

Oh, I also pop my pimples with a drafting compass I used in high school...I can't back that up, but you get the idea. I actually had somebody in mind this year. I've known her forever. She's gorgeous, funny, random and she even knows my name. Only she lives about 90 minutes away and thinks Valentine's Day is "stupid and overrated." Sweet, should I make reservations in my town or yours?

For those of you who have valentines or significant others, kudos; you're all dead to me. While you are walking around contemplating your V-Day plans, keep in mind there are some of us who will spend the evening watching reruns of "The Golden Girls" while eating an excessive amount of Cheetos. If anyone with orange fingers tells you "Valentine's Day was cool, I just hung out and I don't know who Betty White is," they are lying. They probably cried themselves to sleep and peed their bed from all the alcohol they consumed.

Not me though; I will be hanging out with the No. 1 lady in my life, Karyn Bauer. So, if any single, cool, moderately attractive women aren't busy tomorrow night, my mom and I will be at Costco near the sundries. I'll buy the hot dogs.

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No Styrofoam at VG Cafe

Melissa Montecucullo
CAMPUS DINING STAFF WRITER



As of January 29th, VG Cafe is "Foam Free." Wash and re-use dinnerware is used for eat-in meals and "Clam Shells" for take-out are a compostable product developed by the Industrial Technology Department. Cold drink beverage containers are recyclable, and hot cups are paper. No polystyrene containers at VG Cafe!

For many years it has been the goal of Cal Poly Campus Dining to reduce the use of polystyrene, otherwise known as styrofoam. According to Alan Cushman, Associate Director

of Campus Dining, Cal Poly has several ways that they have cut back the use of styrofoam and other non-recyclable products.

Selling reusable mugs and offering discounts when customers use them is a major way to cut back on styrofoam use. For example at BackStage Pizza when you buy a 32 oz. sports bottle for \$1.99, refills are only 75¢. Various styles of reusable mugs are sold at other campus restaurants.

Choices in take-out packaging are another important way to reduce use of polystyrene. Julian's early in March.

BackStage Pizza uses cardboard boxes and "slice trays" to hold their pizza. Tapango's and Campus Market use paper wraps instead of "foam." Take out containers are available at Veranda Cafe and Garden Grille, but only on request, with most meals being served on reusable dinner ware.

Other Campus Dining areas will be switching from polystyrene to alternative containers over the next few months. Watch for compostable coffee cups at Julian's early in March.

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Mustang Daily

"That's dying duck for F-you."

MUSTANG DAILY OPINION/EDITORIAL

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Editor in chief: Emily Rancer
Managing editor: Jennifer Hall

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www.mustangdaily.net

POLITICAL COLUMN

Celebrate Valentine's Day, not V-Day

Happy Valentine's Day to all of you Mustangs out there! Yes, I know many of you, especially guys (and especially engineers), think Valentine's Day is a semi-holiday that was made up by flower dealers, chocolate peddlers and card pushers. I slightly agree with this interpretation, but it doesn't demean the holiday for me. Celebrating American mass consumerism along with "love" and all that other stuff is something that most of us should be used to doing. Indeed, most of our holidays have morphed into a combination of frenzied purchases and awkward gatherings.

However, I think deep down inside, most of us have at least some sympathy for this holiday and the others like it. In fact, I have very fond memories of Valentine's Day in grade school, when the day was spent decorating a shoebox with colored hearts and exchanging cards with everyone in the class. I went for the supercool, popular "Star Wars"

Valentine's Day card. If you were curious, some popular lines that you may try out, free of charge, include: "Our love will Endor," "Yoda one for me," and "You R2 good to me."

Unfortunately, in recent history there have been attempts to undermine this wonderfully commercialized holiday by turning it into something called V-Day and putting it on Feb. 14. Now, I know some of you history buffs out there are wondering; but doesn't V-Day or

VE-Day already fall on May 8 when the allied forces declared victory in Europe, or also on Aug. 15, VJ-Day, the day the allied forces declared victory in Japan? No — to my knowledge, we haven't added any major global victories against the forces of evil to be commemorated on this day.

Instead, this "V" doesn't stand for victory or even valentines; this movement replaces the "V" for vagina or violence (specifically, male violence against women) and culminates with the yearly nationwide readings of "The Vagina Monologues."

Many women in Hollywood — such as Rachel McAdams ("Wedding Crashers"), Calista Flockhart ("Ally Mcbeal"), and Jane Fonda (extreme leftist) — along with others, such as Cal Poly, have embraced this new day over the more traditional one.

The stated purpose of this V-Day celebration and the reading of "The Vagina Monologues" is to raise "awareness" about violence

vulgar stories.

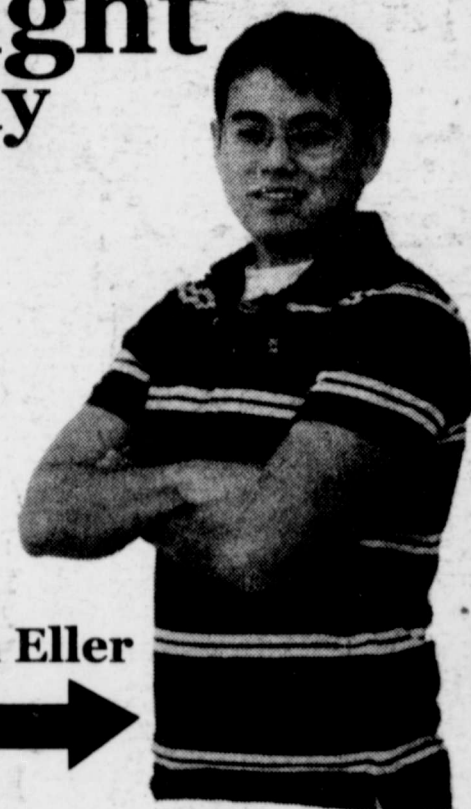
Instead of taking practical steps to stop violence, such as promoting self-defense, advocating tougher laws, or teaching men to not objectify women, it does the opposite. The play itself objectifies women by centering solely on the vagina and describing in great detail many vulgar acts that happen to it.

Likewise, the play in its original form condones underage rape (the rape of a 13-year-old; in later versions, a 16-year-old) by an older woman. As the text says, "if it was rape... it was good rape." I guess this lesbian rape, rather than male rape, makes it somehow OK (not really). Also, as a man, I take slight offense to the play, because the majority of the play has an anti-male bias. Nearly all of the male characters in the play seem to be incestuous rapists and sexual assaulters.

All in all, raising awareness and doing something to oppose violence against women seems like a noble cause. While "The Vagina Monologues" is at the heart of this V-Day movement, even without it the movement has problems. Violence affects everyone, not just those with vaginas. Likewise, V-Day is really just a fundraiser for groups

The Right Way

Brian Eller



like Equality Now, Feminist.com, gay and lesbian centers, and Planned Parenthood, which collect most of the V-Day donations. While these groups oppose violence against women, as most groups tend to (I really can't think of a group that is pro-violence against women), they also advocate specific political agendas that, ironically, many women oppose.

As a man, having a corresponding P-Day would seem like a fair way to counter this movement. However, instead of trying to send a message to everyone with all these "days," I say we just could go back to celebrating American holidays the way they were meant to be: by frantically buying things and reveling in our commercialized society.

Brian Eller is a materials engineering junior and Mustang Daily political columnist.

The play itself objectifies women by centering solely on the vagina and describing in great detail many vulgar acts that happen to it.

against women.

While it's certainly important to be "aware" of things, "The Vagina Monologues" takes an inappropriate, unnecessary, and rather uninformative path to do so. The play itself revolves around talking vaginas and their rather

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Book Review

By Emilie
Egger



"For One More Day"

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No debate still exists on global warming

All right, it's starting to annoy me. The amount of conservatives talking about the "global warming debate" is getting ridiculous.

No serious scientist is still debating this! Heck, no serious layman in any country other than the U.S. is even debating this. Get over it, climate change is only a theory in the sense that the Law of Gravity was once a theory (note that I refer to it as "climate change" since the term "global warming" is a bit misleading, even though that is the general trend).

The question now isn't "is it happening?" or "why is it happening?" The question now is "what do we do about it?"

And I should also mention that your stubborn refusal to admit to climate change affects your credibility on other matters. To cling to something so dogmatically against all evidence to the contrary isn't an "opinion" that others need to be "tolerant of," it's ignorance that needs to be dealt with.

Troy Kuersten

Aerospace engineering, physics senior

Column doesn't represent conservative viewpoint

An unapparent piece of evidence of the possible liberal bias at Cal Poly is through giving the conservative column to Brian Eller. Besides the consistent unverified "facts" he uses, he fails to truly represent conservative students' opinions. I request a brighter, more compassionate author be chosen. It frustrates me, a conservative student myself, that he is still writing the conservative column.

Christopher Garcia

Civil engineering junior

STAFF COMMENTARY

Hype over Anna Nicole's death unnecessary

Anna Nicole Smith's death last Thursday definitely came as a shock, but perhaps even a greater shock was the obscene amount of media coverage that ensued after her death.

Every major news network immediately began relaying the breaking news of her death to the public. Clips of her body being wheeled out of the Florida hotel room where she died and old photographs were plastered across television screens — for days. Her death has been shamelessly reported from every imaginable news angle.

The stories began as unnecessary, but justifiable, news of the details and questions surrounding her death. Controversy over who would have custody of her 5-month-old daughter, the mystery over the death of her son last year, and a look back at her bizarre life also dominated the media coverage.

The stories have been on an increasingly ridiculous downward spiral since then, attempting to keep the story as up-to-the-minute as possible. Reports have been made

on everything from how fans are "grieving" her death, to photographs of what was in Smith's fridge the day she died (Slim-Fast, yogurt and butter), to analyzing the reporting of her death.

Even more ridiculous than the stories is the fact that the major news networks have spent so much time covering the death of Smith in the first place. When did the death of a celebrity become news?

On a day when deadly windstorms brought destruction to Florida, 11 men were killed in Iraq and the federal budget was presented to Congress, the media was

focused on Anna Nicole Smith. Details of her death took over the main screen and the ticker running across the bottom of the television screen.

On a day when deadly windstorms brought destruction to Florida, 11 men were killed in Iraq and the federal budget was presented to Congress, the media was focused on Anna Nicole Smith.

The former Playboy playmate's celebrity status grew after the death of her oil-tycoon husband, who was 63 years her senior. She went all the way to the Supreme Court fighting to win his fortune, had a reality TV

series on E! that followed her antics, and most recently became the spokesperson for TrimSpa, which reportedly helped her lose more than 70 pounds.

Smith's behavior in the spotlight has been strange throughout the years; loopy interviews and peculiar behavior, especially on "The Anna Nicole Show," alluded to drug use, and the media seemed to make mockery of her.

Since her death, news outlets have been making memorial segments of Smith as if they are going to miss her presence. At the risk of sounding callous, I think it's safe to say that, while she may be missed by those closest to her, she will not be missed by the entertainment industry.

Smith's death should have been left to the job of tabloid and entertainment industries, like "E! News" and "The Insider," who, I should mention, are also having a field day with her death.

Samantha Freitas is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

GUEST COMMENTARY

New Orleans still needs help

Trace McKellips

DAILY NEBRASKAN (U. NEBRASKA)

New Orleans unequivocally proves the failure of the American promise. Since conception, politicians and citizens alike have boasted the innumerable opportunities bursting in all directions. If this promise is to hold true, we need to redirect our attention from the Deep South.

The struggles for residents of New Orleans and surrounding Hurricane Katrina-ravaged communities continue to lacerate day-to-day living. The most audacious part about this prolonged strife, however, resides in our federal government's apathy.

When the unforeseen occurs, whether by foreign attack or natural disaster, the federal government carries the duty of a quick response. Directly following the World Trade Center attacks, Washington assisted the massive cleanup effort by pouring billions of dollars into federal aid.

Yet only a year and a half after the hurricane, our mammoth federal bureaucracy has failed to transfer federal aid to the local communities. As New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin testified before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs last week, he highlighted "the slow and awkward" method of the bureaucratic nightmare. This inefficacy perpetuates already dire conditions.

The grossly under-funded criminal justice system lends a telling example. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has supplied New Orleans with \$14 million to restore a healthy security force. Nagin asserted, however, that \$68 million was needed for the city to provide adequate protection to its citizenry.

With only 20 percent of the aid received, violence has gone from bad to worse in a hurry. The homicide rate ranks near the first in the nation. Just after the start of 2007, six people were shot dead within a 24-hour time span.

If this grueling pace of murders draws out, New Orleans could potentially be the most dangerous city in the country.

The city has recorded a higher rate of murder since before Hurricane Katrina, except with less than half the population. Before the hurricane, there were 35 detectives to solve homicide crimes. A year after the hurricane, nine detectives remain.

Another obstacle facing recovery efforts resides in the schooling system. A little more than one-third of New Orleans schools are in session. At the beginning of school last fall, some parents lingered behind and sent their children back to the city.

With literally no parental control, conditions proved conducive for mischief. Teachers have reported a lack of interest and oft-times confrontational behavior among students. Some students have little money to squander and are reduced to eating the school lunch as their sole meal for the day. This, in turn, has bred lethal results.

For those displaced by the hurricane, this upsurge in violence does not make the decision of whether to return an easy one.

For those who have forged on, attaining a federal loan to begin reconstruction proves a burdensome process. Thousands have been denied insurance because of discrepancies of what actually destroyed their houses, water or wind.

Due to the demand for the limited housing available, property value has skyrocketed, making it nearly impossible for low-income families to return without assistance. The Robert T. Stafford Act, which is the primary reimbursement program for reconstruction, has given \$145 million in reimbursements. FEMA has estimated \$324 million has been paid out, which totals a deficit of almost \$200 million not getting back into the pockets of citizens of New Orleans.

If Bush and Congress prioritized the displaced citizens on their own soil, money could begin reaching communities at an expedient rate. I have a heavy heart, though. Foreign affairs will not leave the spotlight in the near future.

How quickly we forget our own fellow Americans.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Not so easy for men

Sarah Baldwin

DAILY KENT STATER (KENT STATE U.)

I was quite surprised to find my last column incited some rage (presumably among jerks whose toes were pinched by my observations), so since today is Valentine's Day, I will give their tender feelings a break and rhapsodize about the male population.

Men — there's so many things to say. I suppose I should start by telling you that, for a large part of my life, I've disliked them. In fact, some people would have described me as a man-hater. I'm not sure they would have been completely inaccurate. I held these negative beliefs for a long time, but then I grew up.

Somewhere along the lines, I finally grasped the idea that life is rough on all of us, and being a creep isn't exclusive to the male gender. I first realized this when one of my guy friends was having a hard time finding a job after graduation. Being unemployed ate away at him, and he saw himself as a failure. One night, after contemplating his tough situation, I turned on the TV, and I kid you not, every single show I flipped to was a slam on men.

First, there were the unoriginal sitcoms that involve the premise of the stupid, ugly husband who does everything wrong, except bring home the bacon and pay for everyone versus the smart, cute wife who incessantly complains/criticizes/does everything right.

Then I turned to one of those home improvement shows, and one of the poor dudes was getting yelled at for fluffing a pillow incorrectly, or something like

that.

Another guy was becoming an ex-boyfriend on a music video channel, and finally, an insect was becoming his mate's supper on one of those nature programs.

The message came through loud and clear to me, and I felt annoyed, angry and, yes — ashamed.

I was embarrassed because, until then, I'd thought the "men are stupid and deserve the worst" message was right, even justified. Men had it easier in life, and on top of that, they were unfaithful cads.

However, now it was crystal clear I'd been wrong. The men I loved and respected did not deserve the disdain I had been showing — they needed some understanding. My jobless buddy was not a loser — he was intelligent and kind. My funny, insightful dad went to his office every day so my family could have nice things. Heck, even my brother had some good qualities.

Yet, for a long time I couldn't see this because I was blinded by the "men are inferior" rhetoric so common in our society.

So guys, here's my Valentine's Day message to you: From now on, I will approach our interactions without a bad attitude and low expectations. I will respect (and love) you for the fact that you may be better at adeptly fixing my computer in two minutes than dissecting and analyzing the two-minute conversation I just had with my ex-best friend. I will accept you the way God made you, and I will not expect you to be more like me.

After all, most of the guys I know would make some really ugly women.

Columnist Lineup

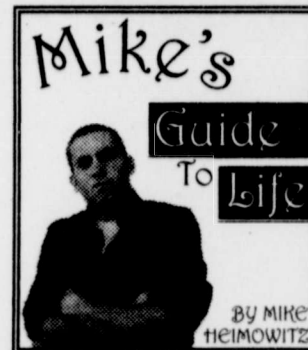
MONDAY

Liberal-Zach Austin



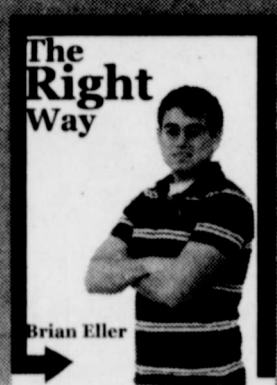
TUESDAY

Humor-Mike Heimowitz



TODAY

Conservative-Brian Eller

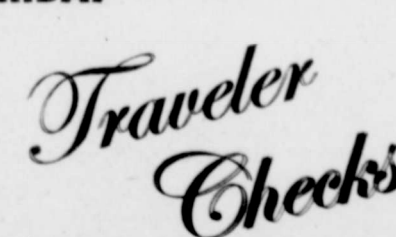


THURSDAY

Dating-Sarah Carbonel



FRIDAY



WANT MORE???

Check in with these online columnists at www.mustangdaily.net!

MONDAY-SUSTAINABILITY

The Green Spot

by Jesse Churchill

TUESDAY-HUMOR

The Bunion

by Daniel Gingras

WEDNESDAY

Book Reviews

THURSDAY-MOVIE REVIEWS

The Word on the Screen

by Ryan Chartrand

FRIDAY

How to Survive

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North Korea

continued from page 6

aid equal to 50,000 tons of heavy fuel oil for shutting down and sealing its main nuclear reactor and related facilities at Yongbyon, north of the capital, within 60 days, to be confirmed by international inspectors. For irreversibly disabling the reactor and declaring all nuclear programs, the North will eventually receive another 950,000 tons in aid.

One million tons of oil would be equivalent to more than two-thirds of North Korea's entire oil consumption in 2004, according figures in the CIA Factbook. Hill said the aid package was worth about \$250 million.

The agreement, which also requires that North Korea state all its nuclear programs including plutonium already extracted, was read to all delegates in a conference room at a Chinese state guesthouse. Chinese envoy Wu Dawei asked if there were objections. With none made, the officials all stood and applauded.

"I consider the agreement as a new milestone in denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula," said South Korean Assistant Foreign Minister Chun Yung-woo.

But the deal drew strong criticism from John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the U.N., who urged President Bush to reject it.

"I am very disturbed by this deal," Bolton told CNN. "It sends exactly the wrong signal to would-be proliferators around the world: 'If we hold out long enough, wear down the State Department negotiators, eventually you get rewarded,' in this case with massive shipments of heavy

fuel oil for doing only partially what needs to be done."

Robert J. Einhorn, a former State Department official who visited North Korea with then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, said Americans should applaud the agreement, but he predicted it would come under heavy questioning from both the right and the left.

He said, "I think a number of people are going to ask the question 'Couldn't this deal have been concluded three or four years ago before North Korea conducted its nuclear test and acquired enough additional plutonium to build anywhere from six to 10 nuclear weapons?'"

If North Korea goes through with its promises, they would be the first moves the communist nation has made to scale back its atomic development since the talks began in 2003 after the North kicked out international inspectors and restarted its sole operating nuclear reactor.

Hill said North Korea miscalculated world reaction when it tested a nuclear device in October.

"I think they understand that these nuclear weapons, far from being a means of security or prestige, have really acted to isolate North Korea as never before," Hill told the Associated Press.

Hill said the North Koreans had insisted that the specific amount of aid be spelled out during the talks — and not left to a later working group to address as the U.S. had wanted.

In return, Hill said the negotiators moved to also discuss the next step in disarmament, the actual disabling of the North's programs so they could not easily be restarted.



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Romney launches presidential candidacy

Liz Sidoti

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEARBORN, Mich. — Mitt Romney officially entered the 2008 presidential race Tuesday, a former one-term Republican governor of Massachusetts suggesting that his record of leadership inside and outside government uniquely positions him to tackle the country's challenges.

"I don't believe Washington can be transformed from within by lifetime politicians," Romney said, seeking to turn a potential liability, his limited political experience, into an asset. "There've been too many deals, too many favors, too many entanglements — and too little real world experience managing, guiding, leading."

"I don't believe Washington can be transformed by someone who has never tried doing such a thing before, in any setting, by someone who has never run a corner store, let alone the largest enterprise in the world," he added.

The comments were veiled swipes

at Romney's top rival for the GOP nomination, four-term Sen. John McCain of Arizona. Only four years of elective office behind him, Romney is not nearly as well known nationally as McCain and former two-term New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani, political celebrities who consistently lead popularity polls.

A serious contender even though he is little more than a blip in such surveys, Romney is seeking to convince Republican primary voters that his record of success in the private, public and voluntary sectors proves he has the know-how to lead a country at a crossroads.

"It is time for innovation and transformation in Washington," Romney said. "It is what our country needs. It is what our people deserve."

And, he said, he is the candidate who has proven he can deliver.

"Talk is easy, talk is cheap. It is the doing that's hard. And it is only in doing that hopes and dreams can

come to life," Romney added.

A successful venture capitalist who amassed a fortune and the savior of the scandal-plagued 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Romney hopes the party's conservative wing will focus on his deft managerial skills — and set aside any uneasiness it may have about his credentials on issues it holds dear and his faith. If elected, Romney will be the nation's first Mormon president.

In what amounts to a made-for-TV coming-out tour, Romney announced his candidacy in Michigan, the place of his birth and upbringing as well as an important stop on the path to the GOP nomination. He then heads to other states that hold early primaries and caucuses — Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina — before returning to Boston for a major fundraiser.

V-Day

continued from page 9

"When I first began to perform these monologues around the world, I realized that just saying the word vagina caused enormous controversy, because vagina is, in fact, the most isolated, reviled word in any language," Ensler said on the Web site.

"We are willing to strip away the layers, risk making ourselves uncomfortable, insecure for a time, risk saying the word vagina if that's the word that needs to be said."

This year's focus is on women in war zones. The ending piece, in fact, deals with the reconstruction of life after war — and its affect on women.

"It's the idea that women don't fight in the battles, but are a big part of them," said Jazmyn Chandler, a bioresource and agricultural engineering sophomore who will be

performing in "The Angry Vagina."

Minus services and facilities fees, all proceeds from the event will locally benefit the SAFER (Sexual Assault-Free Environment Resource) program of Cal Poly, the SARP (Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention) Center in San Luis Obispo, and Planned Parenthood of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

"It's going to make you think. It's going to make you laugh. It's going to make you cry," Chandler said. "'The Vagina Monologues' isn't going to make 'Hollywood' out of it. The way society sees sex now is as a glamorous, sexy act, but it is not just this. This (play) is going to show you a lot of aspects you haven't thought about before."

These monologues are something "everyone can relate to and understand in some way or another...it's a great event for both men and women to go to," said director Tanner Agron.

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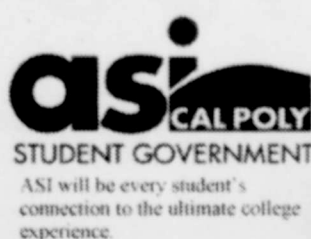
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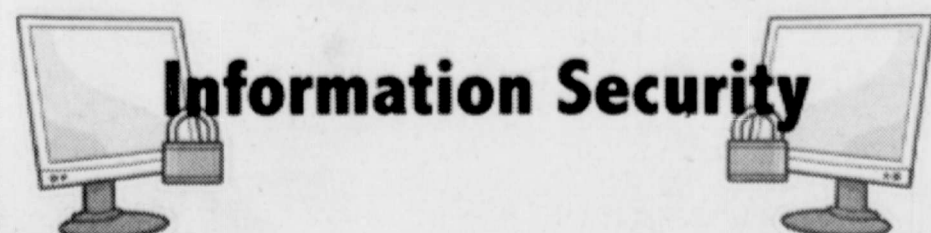
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Frankly

continued from page 16

It's time to get hyped.

It's time to wear the green and gold and show the Gauchos what Cal Poly's all about. So drag your lonely butt into Mott Gym and bring your A-game cheering skills.

For all of you fans who aren't sure what to say when a referee makes a bad call or when a UCSB player is near your section, here's a list of my top-five favorite trash-talking lines from a few of Hollywood's best sports movies:

5. "Noonan!" "Caddyshack" (1980): Relates to the ability of a person to choke... as in on the free-throw line.

4. "Your sister's going out with SQUEEK!" "Basketball" (1998): If you haven't seen it, go rent it and study up before the game tonight.

3. "You're killin' me smalls!" "The Sandlot" (1993): One of the greatest yet most underappreciated sports movies of all-time.

2. "You're adopted! Your parents don't even love you!" "Dodgeball" (2004): This one isn't just good for bagging on 12-year-old Girl Scouts — and it really goes for the heart.

1. "I'm gonna get at you like a spider monkey!" "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby" (2006): The line was directed toward an 80-year-old man by a 10-year-old punk kid, but we could all take a lesson from that punk kid.

Most importantly, remember to keep it PG-rated, folks.

Cal Poly basketball is a family outing — so trade the "BS" chants for something wittier like, "Take-his-whi-stle."

Basketball

continued from page 16

was rushing a lot of shots earlier in the year. Now that I'm getting my feet set, my shots are starting to fall."

In addition to the shots falling, Bromley was especially pleased with his team's assist-to-turnover ratio of 21-7 Saturday. Sophomore point guard Trae Clark led the way with eight dimes.

Cal Poly's offense was so impressive, in fact, that Bromley said Monday that UCSB head coach Bob Williams had told him earlier this week that the Mustangs' offense is the third-best in conference, behind only Long Beach State and Cal State Fullerton.

Much of the improved play has to do with the emergence of 6-foot-7, 220-pound junior post player Matt Hanson. After stints at Vermont (2003-04) and St. Cloud State (2004-05) and a redshirt season at Cal Poly (2005-06), Hanson appears to have found a niche.

He came up with a career-high 19 points and six rebounds against Long Beach State last Thursday, then started in place of injured sophomore center Titus Shelton (ankle sprain) to contribute nine points and six boards against UC Irvine on Saturday.

Shelton played Saturday for the first time in four games. He had four points, three rebounds and one blocked shot in 18 minutes.

"I probably need to find a way to play those guys together," Bromley said of Hanson and Shelton.

The Mustangs' depth underneath the basket is not limited to those two. Also contributing in the paint



BRENNAN ANGEL MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly sophomore point guard Trae Clark defends against UC Irvine junior guard Marcus McIntosh during the Mustangs' 89-80 Big West Conference home win on Saturday in Mott Gym.

have been high-flying 6-8 junior Dreshawn Vance (6.6 points, 5.0 rebounds per game), 6-7 senior Joe Henry (.563 field-goal percentage) and 6-8 senior John Manley (started Thursday).

Aside from free-throw shooting (.611 on the season), one thing Bromley said his team still must work on is playing with a lead.

Cal Poly blew a 14-point advantage against Long Beach State and saw its 14-point lead against UC Irvine dwindle late before closing

strong.

"When you're up by 10, 11, 12, you don't have to try to win by 30 every time," Bromley said. "Some of that is playing smarter with the lead. Not too many teams can get up by 14 on Long Beach."

UCSB, meanwhile, will be trying to get back in the win column after having its four-game victory streak snapped in a wild 68-67 home loss to Long Beach State on Saturday.

The Gauchos are led by junior guard Alex Harris (19.8 ppg), junior

forward Chris Devine (15.0 ppg, 6.6 rpg) and senior guard Cecil Brown (9.4 ppg).

Bromley said Whiten will start on Harris, McGinn on Brown and players will switch frequently on Devine.

As for Cal Poly, which has won six of its last eight games overall and is 8-2 at home, momentum is building.

"I believe, like my teammates believe," Hanson said Monday, "we can win this thing."

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Saturday vs. Portland State

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ESPN Bracket Buster Game!

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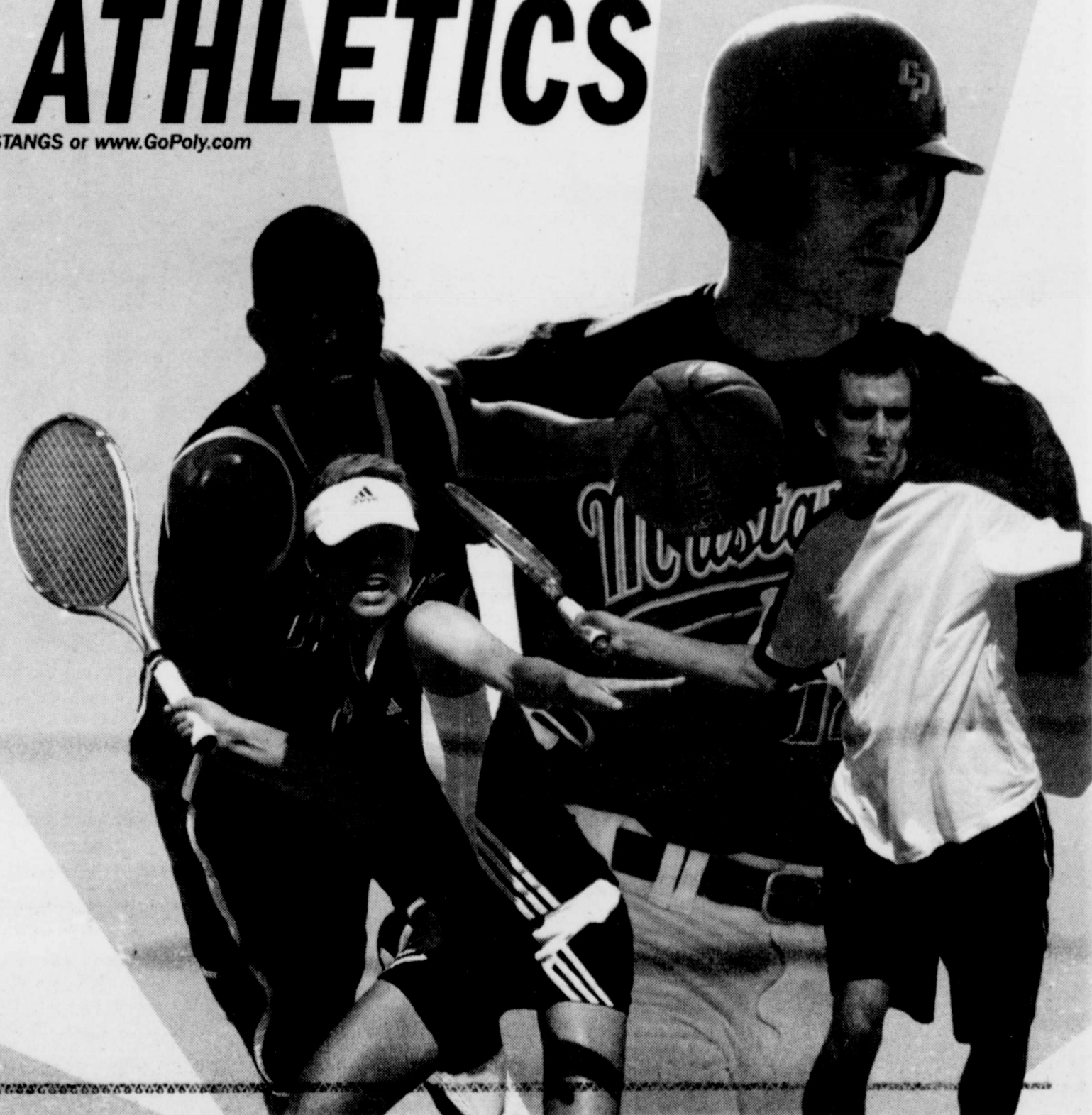
Check www.GoPoly.com for schedule

Mustang Courts

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Feb. 17 vs. UC Irvine 11 a.m.

Feb. 18 vs. San Jose State 11 a.m.



Sharks hold on to win 6-5 thriller at Blues

San Jose nearly relinquished a four-goal lead, but held on to improve to 18-8 on the road.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — Even as the San Jose Sharks built a four-goal lead, coach Ron Wilson never felt comfortable.

"It was almost too easy," Wilson

said after the Sharks held off for a 6-5 victory over the St. Louis Blues on Wednesday night. "I kept saying to the team, 'You got to put these guys away. They won't go away.' All the games I've watched on TV where they've managed to fall behind by two or three, they've managed to come back and I thought they'd do the same."

They did, scoring twice in the

third period to cut the Sharks' lead to one. But the Sharks, powered by a goal and three assists from both Joe Thornton and Jonathan Cheechoo, held on.

That was a little too close for Cheechoo, particularly after the way the game began.

"It was nice to get off to a start like that, but we sat back too much," he said.

Day leads Mustang women's indoor track team at Husky Classic

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

SEATTLE — Cal Poly's Sharon Day highlighted Saturday's Husky Classic with a second-place finish in the high jump with a mark of 5 feet, 10 1/2 inches.

Nikki Chase also won her heat in Saturday's competition with a time of 25.99 seconds in the 200 meters. Sunday's Open saw Day win the 400 meter with a time of 58.41 with Chase taking second in a time of 58.62.

Also taking first in Sunday's competition was Julie Dufresne in the shot put with a throw of 46-6. Whitney DeWeese was second at 44-4.25.

Other Mustangs competing in the weekend's events included

Cassie Atkinson in the 800, finishing eighth in her heat with a time of 2:15.78 Saturday, but came back to win the event Sunday with an improved time of 2:14.49.

Denise Gallion won her heat in the 400m on Saturday with a time of 59.63 and ran the 200 Sunday with a time of 2.96.

Bridie McCarey ran back-to-back one-mile runs Saturday and Sunday, finishing ninth in the first race (5:05.43) and third in the second (5:09.93).

Shakia Mitchell finished fourth in her heat in the 60 with a time of 8.26 and fifth in the 200 with a time of 27.18.

Jhana Samuels competed both days in the 60 high hurdles. She ran a 9.32 Saturday.

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0103

ACROSS

- 1 Green course
- 6 Nascar's Gordon
- 10 "Hey, you!"
- 14 São
- 15 Et
- 16 Bluesy James
- 17 Item for William Tell
- 18 Already in France?
- 19 Sauce thickener
- 20 Souvenir, say
- 23 "Star Trek" fig.
- 24 Holed up
- 25 Get comfortably close
- 28 Have a bug
- 29 Cries of disgust
- 31 A.C. stat
- 32 Dessert with dark streaks
- 36 Dark genre

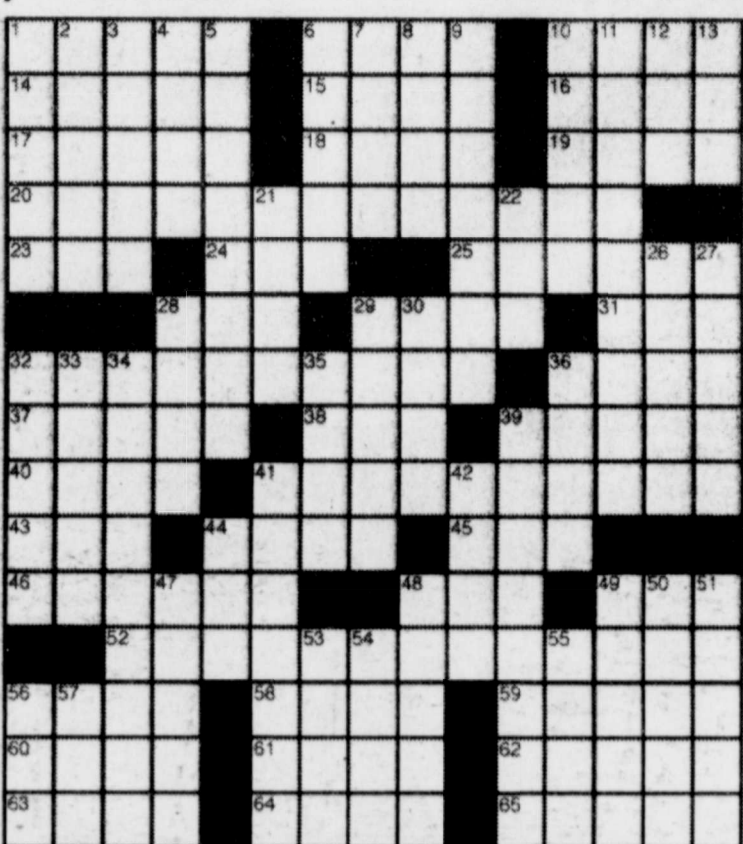
DOWN

- 37 Nancy of "Access Hollywood"
- 38 "What was do?"
- 39 Port town on the English Channel
- 40 Do, for example
- 41 Occupation with an unsavory reputation
- 43 It should be low on a diamond
- 44 Cry coming up to a barn
- 45 Long, long time
- 46 "Holy" one
- 48 Off-roader, for short
- 49 Fall back
- 52 2002 Bond film
- 56 Big maker of notebooks
- 58 Like some advice

- 59 Symptom for an auto mechanic
- 60 Stridex target
- 61 Book before Nehemiah
- 62 Terra
- 63 Some are odd
- 64 Per
- 65 Dimethyl (aerosol propellant)

DOWN

- 1 Sudden burst
- 2 Name likely to come first in a class roll call
- 3 Lies in wait
- 4 Body lotion ingredient
- 5 Slalom alternative
- 6 World-weary
- 7 K-6: Abbr.
- 8 Vanuatu neighbor
- 9 Wedding planner
- 10 Rosie of "Fearless"
- 11 Kind of romance
- 12 Early Beatle Sutcliffe
- 13 Weigh down
- 21 Tee off
- 22 Windows forerunner
- 26 Handy
- 27 More refined
- 28 Experienced
- 29 Islamic decree



Puzzle by Kim Seidl

30 Sacred image: Var.

32 "Haystacks" painter

33 Really go for

34 Inhibitor

35 "Bye"

36 Duel time, maybe

39 Nice's region

41 Put into words

42 One of Alcott's "little women"

44 The "vey" in "oy vey"

47 Ferris wheels and such

48 Starters

49 Head of costume design

50 Butter up?

51 One way to play

53 The Soup

54 Shrek, for one

55 Canine part

56 Bad beginning?

57 Green prefix

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PIPE ALMAY HALE
AVES LEAVE ALAR
EAST OF EDEN NOUN
ANT DAREER GONGS
NAOMI EATS RIGHT
ONCD SIE
INTO IAM GTCARS
TEASIN THE HARBOR
SECEDE ONE ESTA
EMS TRAP
SATESAUCE REACH
AVAST PENAL ROE
MASS SEATCOVERS
BITE ORSER INNS
ALEX OBESE CASE

Willson

continued from page 16

be nearly as successful if everybody didn't contribute. We don't have a coach. We don't have someone helping us. Everything is pretty much self-taught."

Despite this, they remain competi-

tive and have improved from 10th to sixth in their region. The team recently made its first appearance at nationals where it placed fifth and became the first Division II school ever to win the Most Spirited Award.

"For me, going to nationals this year was perfect, it was everything accumulated," Willson said. "We couldn't have gotten there if we didn't have the boat to practice. Getting the boat took hours of fundraising and hard work and everybody sacrificing. Instead of being out water skiing, we were doing fundraisers."

Willson is finishing up her commercial recreation degree with an internship for USA Water Ski in Florida.

"I've been so involved with water-skiing for the last four years that it's hard to imagine not still being involved," she said. "I wouldn't have been able to get the job if it wasn't for all the experience I got with the team. Hands down, the team is the reason I got the job."

su|do|ku

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

7	6	8	1	3	9	4	2	5
5	9	4	6	8	2	1	3	7
3	1	2	5	4	7	9	6	8
4	7	3	2	5	8	6	9	1
9	8	5	3	6	1	7	4	2
6	2	1	7	9	4	5	8	3
8	4	7	9	1	3	2	5	6
2	3	6	4	7	5	8	1	9
1	5	9	8	2	6	3	7	4

CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED

PART TIME NANNY to care for 6 mo. old baby in Los Osos. References required. \$10/hr. Days negotiable. Please call 310.600.5350

STAYING IN SLO THIS SUMMER & LOOKING FOR A JOB ON CAMPUS?

Conference and Event Planning is hiring 10-20 staff for summer conferencing season. Training begins in late April. Seeking hard-working, responsible, and positive individuals who enjoy working in a fun, fast-paced team setting. Cashier and customer service experience preferred. Optional summer housing at highly reduced rate. Flexible hours. PT/FT available. \$7.50-9.50/hour. Great internship opportunity! Fed Work Study positions open. Applications and job descriptions in bldg 116 rm 211, M-F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30pm or on Mustang Jobs online. Completed Apps. and resume due by 3/2/07. Call (805) 756-7600 for detailed job description emailed to you

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Dell Campus Reps Needed Promote a top 30 company to gain real-world business and marketing experience! www.RepNation.com/Dell to apply.

Winter/Spring Positions Available Earn up to \$150 per day Exp not Required. Undercover shoppers needed To Judge Retail and Dining Establishments. Call 800-722-4791

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Part-Time, Flexible Hours. Work with various entities at Cal Poly on tobacco education and enforcement of campus smoking and tobacco policy. Email resume and cover letter to corina@cyanonline.org. More info: (916)339-3424 ex.22

Classified Ads Website www.mustangdaily.net

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SWIM INSTRUCTOR Must be Great with children, fun and committed to teach at the 5 Cities Swim Club Arroyo Grande (805) 481-6399

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Raise the Respect Meeting Sex trafficking, Darfur, Invisible Children and more... Educating student about injustices happening now and taking action! Find out more at our meeting on Mon, Feb 19, 7pm @ in UU 217! RaisetheRespect@gmail.com

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5 Bdrm house for sale + 2.5 acres ... includes BARN & Corral & Mini-Vineyard. Close to Cal Poly. \$675,000 (805) 441-6908

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Beautiful 4BR located near 101 SLO. This 2-story custom has 3 Full baths & a cozy Family Room. Quick access to Poly. \$709,000. CALL US ON CONDOS, TOO. ADOBE REALTY 543-2693

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SHOUT OUTS! FREE EVERY THURS Submit yours by Tuesday! classifieds@mustangdaily.net

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"One's destination is never a place but rather a new way of looking at things." -Henry Miller

Guess what? Quotes are free too.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost African Goat from Fisher Hall \$100 REWARD 756-5242

FOUND: Sunglasses in Bldg 13 Call 909-633-8022

REWARD \$50 for LOST dog "Nacho" Bulldog, Male, White/brown. Call: 438-5424

FOUND Woman's watch near Foothill Blvd. Call (916) 214-5090

FOUND scarf in University Cashier Call Betty: 756-2310

FOUND: Silver Crescent - shaped hoop earrings. (646) 483-9647

REWARD for lost gold bracelet with heart and "Frances" engraved Please call: (805) 464-1000

LOST Motorola cell phone contact: hduong@calpoly.edu

Lost and Found ads are FREE

Poly's Willson receives water-ski honor

Amanda Willson was named the National Collegiate Water Ski Association's Most Valuable Female Skier of the Year.

Samantha Freitas
MUSTANG DAILY

When Amanda Willson transferred to Cal Poly in 2003, the school's water ski club team was virtually nonexistent.

It had no boat and only six members.

That year, Willson became the club's president and essentially restarted the team. She raised enough money to purchase its first boat and watched the beginning of the team's growth.

Willson's involvement with the team continued over the next three years and helped lead the team to where it is today.

The National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA) recognized Willson's contributions to the team, both on and off the water, by naming her the 2006 NCWSA Most Valuable Female Skier of the Year.

"The award is for the skier who has done the most for their team and the growth of the sport, along with their actual performance," Willson said.

Willson was given the award because of her impact on the growth of the Cal Poly team and her involvement as the club president for two years, the regional treasurer for two years and most recently the secretary for the national board.

"Amanda has been a crucial part in getting the team to the point it's at today," said Cal Poly water ski team president Colin Gibbs.

She was also chosen for her performances, especially in trick skiing, that made her a standout on the team. Last spring, Willson was selected to the Western Region All-Star team.

"It's hard to separate myself from the team, but individually it was really cool to go to all stars," she said. "It was a personal accomplishment that I really enjoyed, but when it comes to the moments I'm most proud of, my biggest accomplishment is, by far, where the team is today."

Willson, who taught lessons at the Coble Water Ski School in North Carolina for the past two summers, also contributed to the team by helping her teammates with their technique.

"She helped us out with her own scores, but she also contributed a lot by helping others improve their scores," Gibbs said.

The team, which has more than 40 members, has it pretty rough at the moment — it has no coach, no jump to practice on, only one skier who has skied in tournaments before college and little funding from the school.

"I think the reason why our team is so great is because it's everybody's efforts that lead us to our success," Willson said. "Our team would not

see Willson, page 15

No love lost between Mustangs, Gauchos on Valentine's Day

Cal Poly, which has lost 15 of its last 20 games against UC Santa Barbara, will try to sweep the Gauchos in the regular season for the first time since 1998.

Tristan Aird
MUSTANG DAILY

No one can quite figure it out.

For some reason, the UC Santa Barbara men's basketball team has a better record on the road (9-2) than at home (6-5) this season. That could come into play when the Gauchos visit Cal Poly in a Big West Conference rivalry game at 7 tonight in Mott Gym.

"As crazy as it may sound, they're a better road team than they are (a) home team right now," Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley said Saturday after his team's 89-80 home win over UC Irvine.

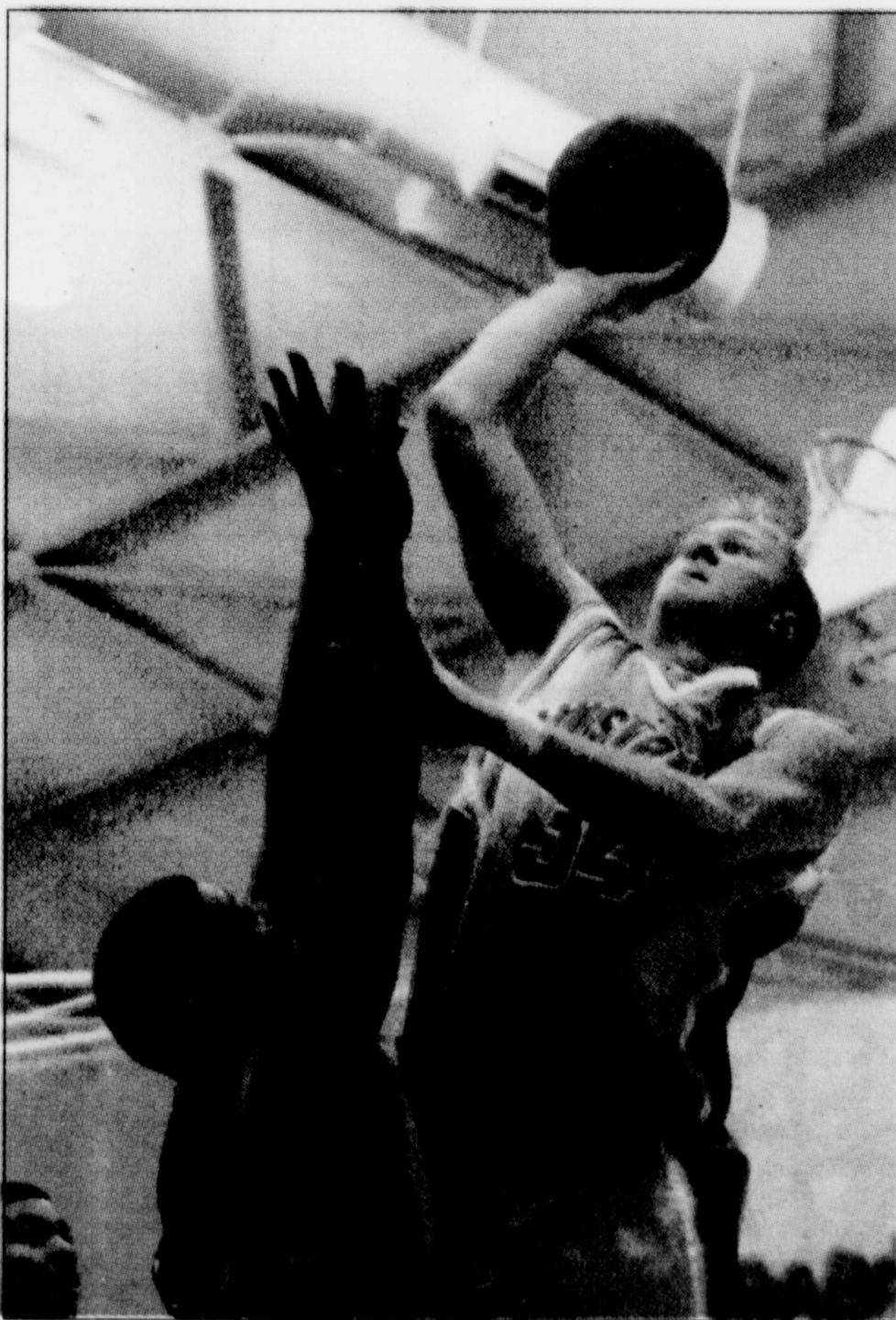
UCSB (15-7, 6-3 Big West) will be looking to avenge a 71-61 home loss to Cal Poly (12-10, 4-5) on Jan. 20. The game marked the Mustangs' first win in the Thunderdome since 1998 and only their second there since 1959.

"They're going to come out harder than they did when we were down there," said Cal Poly junior guard Dawin Whiten, who was named Big West Co-Player of the Week along with Long Beach State's Aaron Nixon on Monday. "We have to really be ready for that because they're going to want pay-back. We went down there and beat them on their home court. That's not going to sit well with them."

Whiten tied a school-record with eight 3-pointers on his way to a career-high 31 points Saturday despite playing with a left ankle that he said at the time was "about 75, 80 percent" healthy.

"When Dawin's making shots like that it frees up 'Stock' and Tyler (McGinn)," Bromley said Monday at a weekly athletics department press conference. "I thought we played extremely well. We controlled the basketball game."

Senior forwards Derek Stockalper and McGinn were free enough Saturday to score 15 and 11



BRENNAN ANGEL MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly junior post player Matt Hanson, right, goes up for a shot during the Mustangs' 89-80 Big West Conference win over visiting UC Irvine on Saturday in Mott Gym. Hanson has averaged 14.0 points and 6.0 rebounds over his last two games.

points, respectively, contributing to the Mustangs' highest-scoring effort since a 99-91 home loss to second-place Cal State Fullerton on Dec. 28.

Stockalper said last Saturday that Wednesday's game and Saturday's 4 p.m. ESPN Bracket Buster contest against visiting Portland State could both serve as momentum builders in preparation for the March 7 to 10 Big West tourney in Anaheim.

"UCSB is a big game, big rivalry," said Stockalper, who leads Cal Poly in points (13.1) and rebounds

(6.9) per game. "Got them down there, it's going to be a tough game. We just have to come out running in both those games, take care of Santa Barbara first."

Whiten shot 9 of 13 from the floor Saturday, dramatically breaking out of a slump in which he had shot only .355 from the field in his first 20 games this season.

"Me and coach Bromley were talking and we both agreed that I needed to get my feet set and shoulders squared," Whiten said. "I

see Basketball, page 14

Poly women's golf team ties for fifth at tourney

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

BEAUMONT — The Cal Poly women's golf team slipped two spots into a tie for fifth place during the final round of competition Tuesday in the Lady Braveheart Challenge Golf Tournament at the Oak Valley Golf Club.

Coach Scott Cartwright's Mustangs carded a four-person, 18-hole 334 total in the final round, following Monday's 319, and shared fifth place with Cal State San

Marcos, both with 653 totals.

San Diego State captured the team title with a 309-312-621 total for 36 holes, 10 strokes ahead of runner-up UC Davis. Santa Clara followed Monday's 327 with a 312 and climbed into third place.

Cal Poly's top finisher was Hannah Brabb with rounds of 80 and 81 on the 6,080-yard, par-72 course for an 18th-place tie. Stephanie Yocum carded an 86 Tuesday and, with her first-round 78, finished in a tie for 30th place.

Also scoring for the Mustangs were Maddy Fletcher, 80-85-165 for a 34th-place tie; Jessica Huss with an 81-86-167 for a 41st-place tie; and Julia Heath with an 87-82-169 total for a 47th-place tie.

Individual champion was Jennifer Birmingham of UC Riverside.

Cal Poly continues the spring portion of its schedule March 12 to 14 with the Bobcat Desert Classic hosted by Montana State at the Palm Valley Golf Course in Goodyear, Ariz.

Frankly Speaking



Mustang Maniacs to be put to test tonight

Frank Stranzl
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Marcus McIntosh's favorite food is the McDonald's "Dollar Menu." Nic Campbell is a self-titled "White Chocolate." One of Mark Kelley's heroes is David Hasselhoff.

How do I know these UC Irvine basketball players' deepest secrets? The Mustang Maniacs told me so, courtesy of a "trash talk cheat-sheet" handed out prior to Saturday night's game against the Anteaters.

Cal Poly might not be a bastion for big-time sports programs the likes of USC and UCLA, but its intangibles are quickly improving, making Mott Gym a feared stop on the Big West Conference schedule.

Don't get me wrong — the Mustang Maniacs don't quite carry the street cred of Stanford's "Sixth Men," notoriously some of the craftiest trash talkers on the West Coast. However, the Maniacs are showing rapid improvement with their antics this season.

Tonight gives them a chance to make their mark, to paint their masterpiece for the year; and they're hoping a horde of hyperactive fans join them.

If you're anything like me, you're once again dateless for Valentine's Day. Rather than sitting on the couch, drowning your loneliness away with a quart of Ben & Jerry's Chunky Monkey ice cream, take a trip to Mott Gym tonight.

Cal Poly will host Central Coast rival UC Santa Barbara at 7 p.m.

Here's a snapshot view of "The Dirt" for tonight's game against the Gauchos: Ivan Elliott likes to wear a fake grill and lists his occupation as a pimp; Emmanuel Bidas a Moute received the lesser of his family's genes — his brother, Luc Richard, stars at UCLA while Manny is stuck in Goleta; Alex Harris loves Paris Hilton — enough said.

Fans might also be inclined to remind Cecil Brown about how he clanked the front end of a pair of technical foul shots Saturday night with less than one second remaining in the game, which resulted in a 68-67 loss in a regionally televised game.

There's more, but I can't spill all of the Maniacs' secrets.

see Frankly, page 14